IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-56, without prejudice, and add new claims 57-112 as follows.

Claims 1-56. (Cancelled)

57. (New) A method of establishing a communication connection for traffic between a user equipment and a network, comprising: transmitting a communication connection request from the user equipment to a network element, the request including an indication of a preferred communication connection; receiving at least a part of said request at the network element; selecting at the network element a communication connection for the traffic; and communicating the selected communication connection to the user equipment.

58. (New) A method according to claim 57, wherein an alternative communication connection is selected at the network element in the event that the preferred communication connection is not supported by the network.

59. (New) A method according to claim 57, wherein the communication connection is a PDP context.

60. (New) A method according to claim 59, wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a message to the user equipment identifying the selected PDP context.

61. (New) A method according to claim 59 wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a message to the user equipment identifying the non-selected PDP context.

62. (New) A method according to claim 59, wherein the step of selecting the PDP context is dependent upon the preferred PDP context and the PDP contexts supported by the network.

63. (New) A method according to claim 62 wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a message to the user equipment confirming that the preferred PDP context is selected.

64. (New) A method according to claim 62 wherein the step of communicating comprises transmitting a message to the user equipment rejecting the preferred PDP context.

65. (New) A method according to claim 62 wherein the message identifies an alternative to the preferred PDP context.

66. (New) A method according to claim 59 wherein the step of selecting comprises determining the type of traffic to be transmitted on the PDP context.

67. (New) A method according to claim 59, wherein the step of selecting comprises selecting a first PDP context for a first set of traffic type and selecting a second PDP context for a second set of traffic type.

68. (New) A method according to claim 66 wherein the step of communicating includes communicating the allowed traffic types of the user equipment.

69. (New) A method according to claim 59, wherein the traffic is signalling traffic.

70. (New) A method according to claim 59 wherein the at least two PDP contexts include a dedicated signalling PDP context and a general purpose PDP context.

71. (New) A method according to claim 59 further comprising the step of receiving the PDP request from the user equipment at a further network element, and transmitting the PDP request from the further network element to the network element.

72. (New) A method according to claim 71, wherein the further network element removes the preferred PDP context from the request such that the request transmitted from the further network element to the network element does not include an indication of a preferred PDP context.

73. (New) A method according to claim 59, wherein the step of communicating includes transmitting a cause code or signalling flag.

74. (New) A method according to claim 57, wherein the communication request identifies an emergency connection request.

75. (New) A method according to claim 74 wherein the communication request identifies an emergency PDP context.

76. (New) A method according to claim 74, wherein the selection of the communication for the traffic is dependent upon a network policy.

77. (New) A method of establishing a PDP context for signalling traffic between a user equipment and a network, comprising: receiving a first PDP request from the user equipment at a first network element, the PDP request including an identity of a preferred PDP context; receiving a second PDP request from the first network element at a second network element, the second PDP request including at least part of the first PDP request; selecting, at the second network element, a PDP context for the signalling traffic; and confirming the selected PDP context to the user equipment.

78. (New) A method according to claim 77 wherein the second PDP request includes the identity of the preferred PDP context, wherein the second network element selects the PDP context in dependence on the preferred PDP context and the PDP contexts supported by the network.

79. (New) A method according to claim 77, wherein the second PDP request does not include the identity of the preferred PDP context, wherein the second network element selects the PDP context in dependence on PDP contexts supported by the network.

80. (New) A method according to claim 79, wherein the selected PDP context is a default PDP context.

81. (New) A method according to claim 78 wherein the selected PDP context includes one of a dedicated signalling PDP context and a general purpose PDP context.

82. (New) A method according to claim 78 wherein the step of confirming comprises transmitting a cause code to the user equipment.

83. (New) A method according to claim 77 wherein the preferred PDP context is an emergency PDP context.

84. (New) A computer program product for storing computer program code adapted to perform the method of claim 59.

85. (New) A network element for determining a communication connection for traffic between a user equipment and a network, comprising: means for receiving a communication connection request from the user equipment; means for selecting a

communication channel for the traffic; and means for communicating the selected communication to the user equipment.

86. (New) A network element according to claim 85 wherein the communication channel is a PDP context.

87. (New) A network element according to claim 85 wherein the communication channel request includes an identity of a preferred communication channel.

88. (New) A network element according to claim 85 wherein the means for communicating is adapted to transmit a message to the user equipment identifying the selected PDP context.

89. (New) A network element according to claim 85 wherein the means for communicating is adapted to transmit a message to the user equipment identifying the non-selected PDP context.

90. (New) A network element according to claim 85 wherein the means for selecting one of at least two PDP contexts is responsive to the PDP contexts supported by the network.

91. (New) A network element according to claim 90, wherein the PDP request includes an identity of a preferred PDP context, the means for selecting being further responsive to the preferred PDP context.

92. (New) A network element according to claim 91 wherein the means for communicating is adapted to transmit a message to the user equipment confirming that the preferred PDP context is selected.

93. (New) A network element according to claim 86 wherein the means for selecting comprises means for determining the type of traffic to be transmitted on the PDP context.

94. (New) A network element according to claim 86 wherein the means for selecting comprises means for selecting a first PDP context for a first set of signalling types and means for selecting a second PDP context for a second set of signalling types.

95. (New) A network element according to claim 93 wherein the means for communicating is adapted to communicate the allowed traffic types to the user equipment.

96. (New) A network element according to claim 86 wherein the traffic is signalling traffic.

97. (New) A network element according to claim 86 wherein the PDP contexts include a dedicated signalling PDP context and a general purpose PDP context.

98. (New) A network element according to claim 86 comprising a gateway GPRS support node.

99. (New) A network element according to claim 98 wherein the means for requesting is connected to receive the PDP request from a serving GPRS support node.

100. (New) A network element according to claim 91 wherein the preferred communication channel is an emergency communication channel.

101. (New) A network element for determining a PDP context for traffic between a user equipment and a network, comprising: means for receiving a first PDP request from the user equipment at a first network element, the first PDP request including an

identity of a preferred PDP context; means for receiving a second PDP request from the first network element at a second network element, the second PDP request including at least part of the first PDP request; the second network element including means for selecting a PDP context for the traffic; and means for confirming the selected PDP context to the user equipment.

102. (New) A network element according to claim 101 wherein the second PDP request includes the identity of the preferred PDP context, the means for selecting being dependent upon the preferred PDP context and the PDP contexts supported by the network.

103. (New) A network element according to claim 102 wherein the second PDP request does not include the identity of the preferred PDP context, wherein the second network element selects the PDP context in dependence on PDP contexts supported by the network.

104. (New) A network element according to claim 103 wherein the selected PDP context is a default PDP context.

105. (New) A network element according to claim 101 wherein the selected PDP context is one of a dedicated signalling PDP context and a general purpose PDP context.

106. (New) A network element according to claim 101 wherein the first network element is a SGSN and the second network element is a GGSN.

107. (New) A network element according to claim 106 wherein the message is a cause code to the user equipment.

108. (New) A network element according to claim 101 wherein the preferred PDP context is an emergency PDP context.

109. (New) A communication system including a serving GPRS support node for receiving a PDP request from a user equipment, the PDP request including an identity of a preferred PDP context; and a gateway GPRS support node for receiving a PDP request from the serving GPRS support node, wherein the gateway GPRS support node is adapted to select a dedicated signalling PDP context or a general purpose PDP context for signalling traffic between the user equipment and the communication system in dependence upon the PDP contexts supported by the network and to confirm the selected PDP context to the user equipment.

110. (New) A communication system according to claim 109 wherein the gateway GPRS support node receives the PDP request form the serving GPRS node including the identity of preferred PDP context, the gateway GPRS support node being further adapted to selected the signalling PDP context in further dependence on the identity of the preferred PDP context.

111. (New) A cause code for a communication system in which a PDP context is to be established for traffic between a user equipment and a network, the PDP context being established by: receiving a PDP request from the user equipment at a network element; selecting a dedicated signalling PDP context or a general purpose PDP context for the traffic; and confirming the selected PDP context to the user equipment using the cause code.

112. (New) A cause code for a 3GPP R5 communication system which indicates a signalling PDP context activated by a network to a user equipment.